

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GILA COUNTY, ARIZONA

Date: July 14, 2004

JOSÉ M. SANCHEZ

Chairman

JOHN F. NELSON

Clerk of the Board

RONALD A. CHRISTENSEN

Vice-Chairman

By: Marian Sheppard
Chief Deputy Clerk

CRUZ SALAS

Member

Gila County Courthouse
Globe, Arizona

PRESENT: José M. Sanchez, Chairman; Ronald A. Christensen, Vice-Chairman; Cruz Salas, Member; and, John F. Nelson, County Manager/Clerk.

The Gila County Board of Supervisors met in Special Session at 10:00 a.m. this date. Vice-Chairman Christensen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Jeremy Goodman delivered the Invocation.

At this time each Board member presented a brief summary of current events as allowed by A.R.S. §38-431.02(K). No action was taken on any items that were presented.

Upon motion by Supervisor Salas, seconded by Vice-Chairman Christensen, the Board convened as the Gila County Library District Board of Directors at this time in order to address agenda item number three. Jacque Griffin, Assistant County Manager/District Librarian, requested the adoption of the fiscal year 2004-2005 tentative budget for the Gila County Library District in the amount of \$854,577. She advised the reason that this year's budget amount is less than last year is because a new automated library system was implemented last year. Ms. Griffin read aloud the amounts the District is funding to the eight affiliate libraries within Gila County, as follows: Globe Library \$92,555; Hayden Library \$66,625; Isabelle Hunt Memorial Library \$76,670; Miami Library \$52,070; Payson Library \$157,850; San Carlos Library

\$26,035; Tonto Basin Library \$46,125; and, Young Library \$43,870. She provided a brief overview of the types of services provided at the larger libraries versus the smaller libraries. Each Board member congratulated Ms. Griffin for improving the working relationships between the various libraries and the Library District. The Board also paid compliments to Ms. Griffin regarding her job performance as both the Assistant County Manager and District Librarian. Upon motion by Supervisor Salas, seconded by Vice-Chairman Christensen, the Board unanimously adopted the fiscal year 2004-2005 tentative budget for the Gila County Library District in the amount of \$854,577. **(A detailed breakdown of the Library District Budget is contained on page 11 of the entire Gila County Budget.)**

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Christensen, seconded by Supervisor Salas, the Board reconvened as the Board of Supervisors.

John Nelson requested the adoption of the fiscal year 2004-2005 budget for Gila County in the amount of \$61,937,191, an increase over last year's budget of \$479,000 or less than a 1% budget increase. Mr. Nelson provided a brief overview of the budgetary process as outlined in the Arizona Revised Statutes. He advised the audience that the budget amount adopted today cannot be increased up to and during the time the Board adopts the final budget; the total amount may only be changed or decreased. He advised that the primary property tax rate for the upcoming fiscal year remains unchanged from last year at \$4.41, and the total county-wide tax rate remains unchanged at \$4.71. Mr. Nelson reviewed General Budget expenditures which total \$31,995,496, an increase of \$1,207,468 or 3.92% over last year's budget. He advised that approximately \$1,200,000 is being carried over from last year's budget, which is \$200,000 above the \$1,000,000 contingency fund amount. Mr. Nelson explained the reason for this higher carryover amount is due to the State's budget deficit. He advised that Gila County is in its second year of providing funding to the State in order that the State may balance its budget. He further advised that the County will not be required to pay the State after

this next fiscal year. Mr. Nelson provided an overview of the Truth in Taxation hearing notice statutory publication requirements. He advised that Gila County is proposing an increase in primary property taxes of \$133,003 or 83/100 of 1%. For example, the proposed tax increase will cause Gila County's primary property taxes on a \$100,000 home to increase from \$437.37 (total taxes that would be owed without the proposed tax increase) to \$441.00 (total proposed taxes including the tax increase). Mr. Nelson advised that one of the commitments made by the Board of Supervisors and County Management to employees during the last couple of years is that money would be diverted into salaries if employees participated in the County's Wellness Program. Mr. Nelson advised that the Wellness Program has been a resounding success and, as a result, health insurance premiums are not being increased this upcoming fiscal year. He stated that nationwide, health insurance premiums have increased 14%. At the request of Supervisor Salas, Mr. Nelson provided a detailed overview of General Fund expenditures by category; as follows: General Government \$5,291,653; Law Enforcement \$7,902,223; Judicial Services \$6,169,458; Health, Welfare and Sanitation \$2,600,344; Education and Recreation \$500,234; and, Transfers \$8,181,584. Mr. Nelson also provided an overview of the Road budget in the amount of \$11,660,194. The Board thanked Mr. Nelson for the presentation and thanked David Patterson, Finance Director, for preparing the budget. Upon motion by Supervisor Salas, seconded by Vice-Chairman Christensen, the Board unanimously approved the fiscal year 2004-2005 budget for Gila County in the amount of \$61,937,191. **(A copy of the FY 2004-2005 FY Budget for Gila County is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors office.)**

Mr. Nelson requested that a 2.5% cost of living adjustment be approved for all County employees effective July 12, 2004. Mr. Nelson advised that Gila County employee salaries are lower compared to other Arizona counties. He advised that beginning last fiscal year, the County began adjusting salaries which resulted in a reduction in employee turnover. The employee turnover

rate last year was 16% or a 27% decrease for the last 5 years. Mr. Nelson requested that the Board approve the cost of living adjustment by resolution. He explained that the resolution is not a typical resolution signed by the Board; however, the resolution is a requirement of certain granting agencies in order that grant funds may be released to the County. Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Christensen, seconded by Supervisor Salas, the Board unanimously approved the 2.5% cost of living adjustment for County employees effective July 12, 2004. At the request of Supervisor Salas, Mr. Nelson read the resolution into the record. Upon motion by Supervisor Salas, seconded by Vice-Chairman Christensen, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution as presented by Mr. Nelson. **(A copy of the resolution is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors office.)**

Chairman Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

José M. Sanchez, Chairman

ATTEST:

John F. Nelson, County Manager/Clerk